



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was steady. Demand into all channels was light to moderate with best interest for active retail ads, fast food, and into sports bars. Supplies of all sizes were mixed, but overall available for trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was limited to moderate. Wings were close balanced to tight and moving. Dark meat was mixed, mostly in balance to well cleared, and breast items were at least adequate or obtainable. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at weights in a full range, but mostly desirable.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading declined .25 to 73.75 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 69.00 cents last year on December 10, 2003.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	160.50
BREASTS - B/S	142.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	73.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	73.50
LEG QUARTERS	31.00
WINGS	97.00

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

SOUTHERN REGION Trade sentiment was generally steady. Retail demand was light to moderate with best movement for retail features. Food service was fair to moderate, best for fast food promotions. Supplies of all sizes were usually sufficient to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, wings were balanced to tight and continued to move well. Dark meat was available to closer balanced, and breast items were in a better position to adequate aided by retail specials. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST REGION Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers ranged seasonally light to moderate. Offerings of all sizes varied but generally were fully sufficient for current trade needs. Retail and distributive movement was fair to moderate. The market tone was mostly steady. In the parts complex, bone-in breasts were at least adequate to available; boneless skinless breasts were adequate to fully adequate. Thighs and wings were in close balance. Drumsticks were available.

MIDWEST REGION The whole broiler/fryer market tone remained steady with a cautious undertone. Buyer interest was light on moderate offerings; fill-in trade noted in the Chicago area at 54 cents on 3 up wogs. Demand was mixed, mostly light to moderate, occasionally fairly good into sport bars, fast food and into aggressively priced retail ads. Retail features noted on whole fryers at 49 cents and \$1.29; split breasts at \$1.00, 99, and 89 cents; drums or thighs at 68 cents. Floor stocks were in balance to slightly long. Weights desirable. Parts interest was limited to wings and dark meat, which received active call. Offerings of breast cuts were moderate to heavy, dark meat light to moderate and wings light. The market tone was fully steady to firm on wings, thighs and dark meat and about steady on the balance.

WESTERN REGION The market tone was steady with most trading for next week at unchanged prices. Offerings adequate. Retailer demand moderate. Floor stocks adequate.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES	WEEK ENDING 12/04/04		PERCENT CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
	2004	2003	
EGGS SET	208,631	204,662	+02
CHICKS PLACED	171,017	167,566	+02

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 209 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 4, 2004. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 84 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

CHICKS PLACED UP 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 171 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 4, 2004. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through December 4, 2004 were 8.20 billion, up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 15-Jan-05 is estimated at 155.5 million head. This compares to 152.2 million head the previous week and to 155.9 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 159.4 million head and the composite weighted average price was 67.70 cents per pound.

DECEMBER 07, 2004

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

DECEMBER 08, 2004

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	710	108.00-150.00	110-120	117.63
TENDERLOINS	290	104.00-170.00	105-115	118.31
BREAST - LINE RUN	120	69.00-74.00	70-72	71.13
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	83	30.00-49.00	32-34	34.36
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	510	23.00-29.00	26-27	26.33
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	935	25.00-29.00	28	27.89
WINGS (WHOLE)	295	90.00-97.00	90-92	91.24
WINGS (CUT)	502	108.00-113.00	110-113	111.61
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	105	67.00-75.00	-	71.95

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	730	110.00-150.00	115-120	119.30
TENDERLOINS	338	104.00-170.00	110-115	118.46
BREAST - LINE RUN	97	70.00-76.00	72-74	72.39
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	83	29.00-49.00	32-34	34.24
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	550	23.00-29.00	26-27	26.09
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,090	25.00-32.00	28	27.98
WINGS (WHOLE)	295	93.00-97.00	94-97	94.49
WINGS (CUT)	593	109.00-117.00	111-115	113.44
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

 F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
39.00 - 45.50	42.42	38.50-45.00	41.55	41.80

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was fair to moderate during midweek trading. Offerings of boneless skinless breasts were fully sufficient and clearing satisfactorily; bone-in breasts were available and slow to clear in some instances. Thighs were well cleared while drumsticks were available. Wings were in close balance. Retail and distributive movement was mostly fair. The market tone was barely steady for bone-in breasts. Wings and thighs were fully steady.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES. **DECEMBER 07, 2004**

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	125-130	123.62	597,240
TENDERLOINS	110	107.84	177,400
BREAST - WITH RIBS	68-69	75.09	163,760
BREAST - LINE RUN	68	68.35	117,800
LEGS	42-43	39.31	306,680
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	28-29	28.61	436,222
DRUMSTICKS	23-24	31.39	137,540
THIGHS	26-27	38.76	79,560
B/S THIGHS	76-77	72.29	62,720
WINGS (WHOLE)	93-94	102.92	126,440
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.84	38,880
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	30.61	15,600
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	66.34	22,120

 INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

DECEMBER 08, 2004

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	125-130	125.83	465,000
TENDERLOINS	110	120.31	114,760
BREAST - WITH RIBS	68-69	74.23	157,920
BREAST - LINE RUN	68	68.48	106,160
LEGS	42-43	40.17	307,560
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	28-29	28.66	364,807
DRUMSTICKS	23-24	32.03	113,180
THIGHS	26-27	37.78	67,520
B/S THIGHS	77-78	74.26	93,900
WINGS (WHOLE)	94-95	102.86	90,760
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.56	42,360
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	29.53	16,840
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	67.22	22,320

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		AVG WTS	
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
	12/08	12/07	12/06	12/03	12/06	12/03	12/01	11/29
Alabama	4,089	4,098	4,074	4,978	5.30	5.12	4,109	5.16
Arkansas	5,584	5,547	5,480	6,384	5.16	5.11	5,391	5.31
Delmarva	2,193	2,241	2,216	2,035	5.68	5.69	2,211	5.65
KY-LA-TN	2,080	2,112	2,102	2,382	5.14	5.05	1,752	5.20
Mississippi	3,017	2,992	2,969	3,095	5.61	5.52	3,003	5.73
North Car	2,567	2,532	2,440	2,824	6.49	6.38	2,510	6.59
Texas	2,515	2,512	2,538	3,030	5.29	5.05	2,556	5.37
Total	22,045	22,034	21,819	24,728	5.46	5.34	21,532	5.52
Mon-Wed	66,180 (A)						64,868 (A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 08-Dec-04 is estimated to be 32,982,000 head up 2.08 percent from a week ago and up 8.23 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 32,311,000, last year 30,474,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	97-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	107
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	63-67
DUCKS	-
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS	
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK 103-105
	DRY PACK 103-108
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 108-111
	DRY PACK 111
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK 89-93
	DRY PACK 89-95
DUCKS	175-192

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 11-Dec-04

	CURRENT WEEK 12/11/04 (1)	PREVIOUS WEEK 12/04/04
CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
Broiler/fryer	166,469 (2)	162,481
Light hens	1,593	1,409
Heavy hens	1,349	1,423
Total	169,411	165,313

(1)ESTIMATED (2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 11-Dec-04 is 155.8 million head compared to 155.4 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 166.8 million head or 11.0 million more than estimated available. For the week of 18-Dec-04 the estimated available is 154.3 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY LBS	PROCESSED POULTRY LBS
AM 12/06/04	66,184	60,258
AM 11/01/04	138,953	65,304
CHG	-72,769	-5,046
PCT CHG	-52	-8

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	12/06/04	11/29/04	12/08/03	12/06/04	11/29/04	12/08/03
PACIFIC						
COAST	4,273	4,457	11,772	6,040	5,370	3,726
LOS ANGELES	47	67	396	2,068	1,493	1,751

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 6, 2004

		RANGE
HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	72-79
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	74-83

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 12/07/04

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW HIGH AVG			LOW HIGH AVG		
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.20	.50	.40	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	6.00
ROOSTERS lb.	.40	.80	.58	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-
DUCKS lb.	-	.95	-	DUCKS ea.	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.40	.90	-	RABBITS ea.	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	-	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	6.00
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-			
TOTAL COOPS 22						

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending December 3, 2004

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs W/Thighs	Necks, Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	72.80	118.61	73.62	20.45	8.18	51.13
High	74.44	130.88	85.89	22.50	10.23	51.13
Mostly	72.80	122.70	81.80	20.45	10.23	51.13

SAN JUAN

Low	72.80	122.70	77.71	20.45	10.23	48.67
High	75.26	130.88	89.98	28.63	12.27	48.67
Mostly	72.80	126.79	81.80	24.54	10.23	48.67

NEW SAN JUAN

Low	73.21	126.79	81.80	20.45	12.27	49.90
High	75.26	134.97	89.98	28.63	14.32	49.90
Mostly	73.21	130.88	85.89	24.54	12.27	49.90

BECERRA

Low	73.21	122.70	81.80	24.54	12.27	50.72
High	75.67	134.97	89.98	26.59	14.32	50.72
Mostly	73.21	130.88	85.89	24.54	14.32	50.72

DELMARVA

Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally light to moderate. Seller offerings varied from well cleared to fully adequate. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mixed in a full range of light to heavy. Processing schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 64 to 78 cents. Trade sentiment was steady. In the parts complex, supplies were generally adequate, particularly bone-in breasts. Wings and thighs were generally noted as no more than adequate to down right tight.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

**BRANDED
U.S. GRADE A**

RANGE	60-83
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	66.35
NO. OF BOXES	7,089

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